

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO MR TOM B WEBB JR SECRETARY FLORIDA DEPT OF
TRANSPORTATION BURNS BLDG TALLAHASSEE FLA 32304

UNCLAS STATE 214932

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT:

I AM RESPONDING TO YOUR TELEGRAM OF JULY 22 TO SECRETARY VANCE. PLEASE FORGIVE THE DELAY IN SO DOING. AS YOU KNOW, THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINED THERE WAS NOT AN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR DELAYING THE SIGNING OF THE NEW US-UK AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT AND THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN BERMUDA ON JULY 23. ALTHOUGH MANY INTERESTS DO NOT IMMEDIATELY OBTAIN ALL THEY WOULD HAVE DESIRED, IT IS, ON BALANCE, A VALUABLE AGREEMENT TO THE UNITED STATES. IT PROVIDES MANY HELPFUL BENEFITS TO U.S. AIRLINES AND TO THE TRAVELING AND SHIPPING PUBLIC. IT FREES AIRLINES FROM OBSOLETE OPERATING RESTRICTIONS AND PERMITS ONE-STOP THROUGH-PLANE SERVICES FROM CITIES LIKE TAMPA TO LONDON. AS YOU POINT OUT, IT OPENS THE POSSIBILITY OF NONSTOP TAMPA-LONDON SERVICES IN THREE YEARS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MIAMI GATEWAY NOT ONLY TO SOUTH FLORIDA BUT TO ALL FLORIDA
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COMMUNITIES. THE DEPARTMENT ACTIVELY SUPPORTS NATIONAL AIRLINES' REQUEST FOR CONTINUED AUTHORITY TO SERVE THE MIAMI-PARIS ROUTE FOR THIS REASON. AS FOR THE QUESTION OF NONSTOP TRANSATLANTIC SERVICES FROM TAMPA TO EUROPE, THIS,

AS YOU KNOW, IS INVOLVED IN THE CAB'S TRANSATLANTIC ROUTE PROCEEDING. THE CAB HAS RECENTLY INITIATED ACTION, BEGIN-

NING WITH ORAL ARGUMENT ON AUGUST 31, TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT. IN ITS TESTIMONY, THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION BY EARLY OCTOBER ON THE MIAMI-PARIS ROUTE. THE DEPARTMENT ALSO URGED THE CAB TO MAKE COMPREHENSIVE TRANSATLANTIC RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO CONSIDER TRANSATLANTIC SERVICES FROM US CITIES TO POINTS IN EUROPE OTHER THAN THE UK.

ROBERT A. BROWN, ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF AVIATION,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE. VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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